

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1-10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method for warning a driver of a motor vehicle, comprising:
detecting an object;
detecting at least one of a lane and a course of a roadway; and
generating, in a direction of at least one object in a field of view of the driver, at least one optical warning by at least one signaling arrangement, the at least one object being situated in a vicinity of the motor vehicle,
wherein the at least one optical warning is generated at least prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver, and
wherein the at least one optical warning is generated even if a visibility of the at least one object is impeded by a physical obstruction.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein the at least one optical warning includes at least one of at least one patch of light and at least one warning symbol.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein at least one of a repetition frequency and an intensity of the at least one optical warning is changeable, and wherein at least one of a display duration, a size, and a color of the at least one optical warning is changeable.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein the at least one optical warning is generated immediately prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein the at least one optical warning is generated as a function of a dangerousness of a driving situation.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein the at least one optical warning is at least generated as a function of an optical signal of surroundings of the motor vehicle, the optical signals being generated by at least one image-sensor system including an infrared-sensitive image-sensor system.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein at least one of at least one projection device and at least one heads-up display serving as the at least one signaling arrangement generates the at least one optical warning.

18. (Currently Amended) A device for warning a driver of a motor vehicle, comprising:
a processing module arrangement having a module for detecting at least one of a lane and a course of a roadway, and having another module for detecting at least one object, wherein the two modules operate in parallel; and

at least one signaling arrangement for generating at least one optical warning, the at least one signaling structure including an arrangement for generating the at least one optical warning in a direction of at least one object in a field of view of the driver, and the at least one object being situated in a vicinity of the motor vehicle,

wherein the at least one signaling arrangement includes an arrangement for generating the at least one optical warning in the direction of the at least one object in the vicinity of the motor vehicle at least prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver, and

wherein the at least one optical warning is generated even if a visibility of the at least one object is impeded by a physical obstruction.

19. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 18, wherein the at least one signaling arrangement includes at least one of:

an arrangement for generating at least one of at least one patch of light and at least one warning symbol as the at least one optical warning;

an arrangement for changing at least one of a display duration, a size, a color, and an intensity of the at least one optical warning;

an arrangement for generating the at least one optical warning as a function of a dangerousness of a driving situation.

20. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 18, further comprising:

at least one infrared-sensitive image-sensor system for generating an optical signal of surroundings of the motor vehicle, wherein the at least one signaling arrangement includes at least one of a projection device and at least one head-up display.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 11, wherein the at least one optical warning generated prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver is distinguished from another optical warning generated after the at least one object becomes visible to the driver.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein the at least one optical warning includes at least one of at least one patch of light and at least one warning symbol.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein at least one of a display duration, a repetition frequency, a size, a color, and an intensity of the at least one optical warning is changeable.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein the at least one optical warning is generated immediately prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein the at least one optical warning is generated as a function of a dangerousness of a driving situation.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein the at least one optical warning is at least generated as a function of an optical signal of surroundings of the motor vehicle, the optical signals being generated by at least one image-sensor system including an infrared-sensitive image-sensor system.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 21, wherein at least one of at least one projection device and at least one heads-up display serving as the at least one signaling arrangement generates the at least one optical warning.

28. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 18, wherein the at least one signaling arrangement is capable of distinguishing between the at least one optical warning

generated prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver and another optical warning generated after the at least one object becomes visible to the driver.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein the at least one optical warning includes at least one of at least one patch of light and at least one warning symbol.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein at least one of a display duration, a repetition frequency, a size, a color, and an intensity of the at least one optical warning is changeable.

31. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein the at least one optical warning is generated immediately prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein the at least one optical warning is generated as a function of a dangerousness of a driving situation.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein the at least one optical warning is at least generated as a function of an optical signal of surroundings of the motor vehicle, the optical signals being generated by at least one image-sensor system including an infrared-sensitive image-sensor system.

34. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein at least one of at least one projection device and at least one heads-up display serving as the at least one signaling arrangement generates the at least one optical warning.